Timely Warning,

To Rash and Disobedient

CHILDREN:

Being a strange and wonderful RE-LATION of a young Gentleman in the Parish of *Stepheny*, in the Suburbs of *London*, That sold himself to the Devil for 12 Years, to have the Power of being revenged on his Father and Mother, and now his Time being expired, he lay in a sad and deplorable Condition, to the Amaz-ment of all Spectators.

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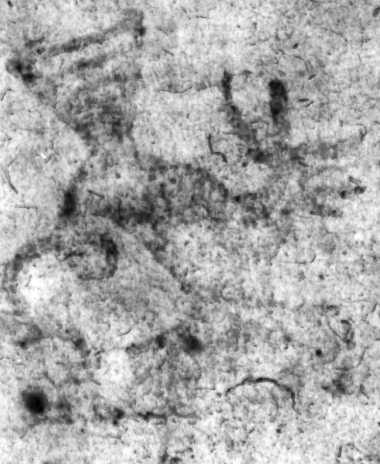

CHILDREN:

A Timely Warning,

TO

Raſh and Diſobedient Children.

IN the Pariſh of *Stepheny*, in the Suburbs of *London*, lived one, Mr. *William Wats*, a wealthy Gentleman, of about 500 a Year, having a Wife, *Anne*, the Daughter of Squire *Wilſon*, living near *Brunt-wood*, having had Iſſue 4. Children, but none of them ſurviving but Mr. *John*, whom they were very indulgent over, bringing him up in St. *John's* Colledge at the Univerſity of *Oxford*, where after he had remained for the Space of five Years, they brought him home, and were very tender over him, allowing him Money at all Times, which proved his utter Diſtruction, for as he grew riper in Years, he likewiſe grew in Wickedneſs, keeping evil Company, (which, as he has ſince declared, was the firſt Inlett to all his other Viceſs) lying out from his Father's Houſe two or three Nights in a Week, which grieved his aged Parents full ſore, eſpecially his Mother, who would oftentimes, with Tears in her Eyes, admoniſhed him to leave off his wicked Courſe of Life, which would bring him to utter Diſtruction, and that he would be a Stain to all their Family, and bring his Father's and her

gray

gray Hairs with Sorrow to the Grave: But th
young Gentleman laughing at his Mothers R
proofs nothing regarding what she said, he re
plyed, He was now in his youthful Prime an
that he would follow his own Ways, and whe
he came to her Age, it would be Time enoug
for him to repent, which stubborn Answer cau
ed his aged Mother weep bitterly.

In a few Days after he coming to his Father
House, being very much heated in Liquor,
a very rude Manner he went to his Fathe
and demanded Money of him, but his Fathe
seeing what a Condition he was in, told him
That he would give him none, but said, th
he lived above his Estate, and that he wou
supply him with Money no longer, at that Rat
as he had done. The Young Gentleman takin
this Answer from his Father as a great Affron
going out of his Father's Doors, swearing bi
dearly that he would be revenged upon his F
ther and Mother, for this Denial, to the Hazar
both of Soul and Body, which stubborness
his caused many Tears from his Father and M
ther's Eyes; but this young Gentleman n
being regarded his Parents Tears, but going o
and taking a Lodging a Distance from his F
ther's House, whereas he was one Day stud
ing how he might get the Estate into his ow
hands, behold how Satan, the grand Enemy
Mankind coming into the Room, and after
a courteous compliant Manner, asked the Reason
of his Sadness, the young Gentleman replyed, Th

he was born to a great Estate, but that his Father and Mother were so close fixed, that now they would not allow him Money to live according to what he was brought up to, to which the Devil replyed, If that was all, he would quickly help his Wants shewing to him a great Bag of Gold, and told him he should not only have that, but he should have Money at all Times, if he would yeild to go with him, when the Terms of 12 Years were expired. At the Sight of the Gold, the Gallant being inticed, replyed, That when the Term was expired, if he would supply him with Money at all Times, he would go with him whither he would please to carry him. Then Satan told him, That he must likewise sign and seal to him with his own Blood. To which he soon consented; and Blood being taken out of one of his Arms, with his own Hand signed the bloody Bond, though at the Time he declared that his Hand and Heart trembled, and his Blood ran back in his Veins, yet resolutely he was resolved to make an End as he had begun, which he had no sooner done, but he vanished out of his Sight, leaving with him the Money. Then this young Gentleman following his wicked Course of Life, his Father wondered how he came by the Money, he coming very seldom at him, till his twelve Years were almost expired, and he having but one Day of his twelve Years to come, and being in his Father's House, and going into a Chamber by himself, to think what would become of his Soul and

Body

Body, knowing that he had but few Hours to live in this present World, his Father by Chance coming into the Chamber, seeing his Son overwhelmed with Tears, not knowing what was the Matter, earnestly asking of him the Reason of his Sadness: For, said he, if you done any thing amiss, be not afraid, tell me of it. The young Man rising up, in a mournful and passionate Manner, he told his Father it was too late, for he had sold both Soul and Body to the Devil, who would this Night come and carry him into his utter Regions of Darkness, but whither I cannot tell, *O who can dwell with everlasting Burnings?* His Father being astonished, cryed out, presently sending for the reverend Mr. *Sannod*, Mr. *Russel* Minister of *Wapping*, Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Paul*, when they came to him, he told them the dismal Story of his Son, then they going unto him, they would have him go to Prayers with them, but he told them he could not pray to GOD, then they would have him say the LORD's Prayer after them, but he told them he could not, though with many Tears they besought him, telling him if he would, they doubted not of his Safety, but he told them, that his Heart was so hardened that he could not pray nor repent, for how can I call God my Father whom I have utterly denyed? I have joined with the professed Enemy, I have signed with my own Blood to Satan, who in a few Hours will come and carry me into his utter Regions of Darkness, where there shall be weeping & gnash-

in

him the great Promiſes, that the LORD had made to Sinners in the Goſpel, the LORD's great Mercy to PETER, *Mary Magdaline*, and the penitent Thief on the Croſs, and of many others both in the Old and New Teſtament.

Then he cryed out, O that I were to begin my Life again! How would I frequent the Churches, and keep holy the Lord's Day? O that I might burn a thouſand Years in Hell Fire: But now alas! It is too late, the GOD of Mercy hath utterly forſaken me, the Door of Grace & Mercy is ſhut againſt me, and will never be opened again upon me. Then he deſired Mr. *Ruſſel* the Miniſter, (being his intimate Acquaintance) and the reſt of the Miniſters, that they would continue with him all Night, and ſee the laſt End of him. for, ſaid he, no Harm will come to any of you, but my ſelf, this is the dreadful Night I ſhall be carryed from you, this is the diſmal Night that my woful Torment will begin, but I ſhall never know End to all Eternity, whereupon the Miniſters continuing in the Chamber that Night with him, placing the young Gentleman in the mideſt of them: In the Dead of the Night there aroſe a dreadful Storm of Thunder, Lightening, Rain and Hail, and affrighted the People, that the very Roof of the Houſe where he was, being ſpilt aſſunder, the Devil coming into the Room in dreadful Shapes; ſnatched the young Man from between them, and daſhed his Brains againſt the Wall, tearing

him

him Limb from Limb, ſcattering them on a Dung-hill that lay behind the Houſe, where the next Morning by his Parents they were gathered together, and were privately buried, wiſhing that might ſerve for a Warning to all raſh and diſobedient Children. *Yours* ROBERT KENT.

The Text of a *SERMON* preached upon the foregoing Occaſion, to warn us to fly Temptations, and ſpeedily turn to the LORD: Jam. 1, 13. 14, 15. *Let no Man ſay when he is tempted, I am tempted of GOD, for GOD cannot be tempted with Evil, &c.*

10 JU 52

FINIS.